

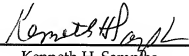
REMARKS

The present action states that claims 1-16 are pending in the present application, with claims 1-16 being rejected for double patenting. The Action also states that no preliminary amendments for the claims were filed. Applicants respectfully submit that a preliminary amendment was filed with the application on September 29, 2003. The preliminary amendment canceled claims 1-16 and added new claims 17 and 18.

Attached is a copy of the preliminary amendment as filed with the USPTO on September 29, 2003. In addition, a printout of the "Image File Wrapper" screen for this application from the PAIR system is attached, with the printout indicating that a preliminary amendment was filed on September 29, 2003 with the application.

Applicants respectfully request that the office action of November 1, 2006 be withdrawn and replaced with an action directed to presently pending claims 17-18.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Kenneth H. Samples  
Registration No. 25,747

Date: 01/18/2007

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY  
120 South LaSalle, Suite 1600  
Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406  
Telephone: 312/577-7000  
Facsimile: 312/577-7007